

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1.-56. (Cancelled).

57. (New) A cleaning system for cleaning a water supply apparatus having a recirculation circuit for recirculating water within the water supply apparatus, the cleaning system comprising:

a cleaning agent vessel containing a cleaning agent that is supplied to the water supply apparatus; and

a cleaning system control unit configured to cause recirculation of the supplied cleaning agent through the recirculation circuit of the water supply apparatus by controlling at least part of the water supply apparatus.

58. (New) The cleaning system of Claim 57, wherein operation of the recirculation circuit is controlled by a first control unit of the water supply apparatus and wherein the cleaning system control unit controls the first control unit to cause recirculation of the supplied cleaning agent through the recirculation circuit.

59. (New) The cleaning system of Claim 57, wherein the cleaning system control unit is configured to control valves of the water supply apparatus that change fluid paths of the recirculation circuit.

60. (New) The cleaning system of Claim 57, wherein the cleaning system control unit is connected to the first control unit via a connector.

61. (New) The cleaning system of Claim 57, wherein the cleaning system control unit is integrally connected with the first control unit.

62. (New) The cleaning system of Claim 57, further comprising:
a water inlet for receiving water at the cleaning system, wherein the water inlet is connected with the water supply apparatus and configured to receive water from the water supply apparatus.
63. (New) The cleaning system of Claim 57, wherein the water supply apparatus is configured to serve mineral water and the recirculated water is mineral water; and
wherein the first control unit is configured to regularly recirculate the mineral water in the recirculation circuit while the cleaning system is not recirculating the cleaning agent through the recirculation circuit.
64. (New) The cleaning system of Claim 63, further comprising:
a cleaning agent outlet for providing the cleaning agent to the water supply apparatus;
wherein the cleaning agent outlet is configured to provide cleaning agent to the water supply apparatus at an upstream location relative to water processing components of the water supply apparatus.
65. (New) The cleaning system of Claim 57, wherein the cleaning system control unit is further configured to control at least a pump that affects the flow of cleaning agent from the cleaning agent vessel through the cleaning system and into the cleaning agent outlet.
66. (New) The cleaning system of Claim 57, wherein the water supply apparatus and the cleaning system are configured to be connected to the same electric energy source.
67. (New) The cleaning system of Claim 57, further comprising:
a filter holder for cleaning a filter for the water supply apparatus when the cleaning system is in use.

68. (New) The cleaning system of Claim 57, further comprising:
a water purification device configured to at least one of mix or discharge purified water with the cleaning agent.
69. (New) The cleaning system of Claim 57, further comprising:
a water purification device configured to at least one of fill or flush the water supply apparatus with purified water.
70. (New) The cleaning system of Claim 57, further comprising:
a dispensed water outlet conduit configured to receive dispensed water from the water supply apparatus and to discharge the dispensed water from the system.
71. (New) The cleaning system of Claim 57, further comprising:
an outflow inlet configured to receive a liquid which flows out of an outflow in the water supply apparatus.
72. (New) A water dispensing system, comprising:
a water supply apparatus having a recirculation circuit for recirculating water within the water supply apparatus; and
a cleaning system comprising a cleaning agent vessel containing a cleaning agent that is supplied to the water supply apparatus, wherein the cleaning system further comprises a cleaning system control unit configured to cause recirculation of the supplied cleaning agent through the recirculation circuit of the water supply apparatus.
73. (New) The water dispensing system of Claim 72, wherein the recirculation circuit is controlled by a first control unit and wherein the cleaning system control unit causes recirculation of the supplied cleaning agent by controlling the first control unit.
74. (New) The water dispensing system of Claim 73, wherein the first control unit is configured to control normal operation of the water supply apparatus and the recirculation circuit via a predetermined water processing program.

75. (New) The water dispensing system of Claim 74, wherein the water supply apparatus is configured to dispense mineral water and the predetermined water processing program is configured to regularly circulate the mineral water.

76. (New) The water dispensing system of Claim 75, wherein the cleaning system control unit is configured to cause recirculation of the supplied cleaning agent through the recirculation circuit by operating according to a predetermined cleaning program.

77. (New) The water dispensing system of Claim 76, wherein the cleaning system control unit is further configured to cause the recirculation circuit to be flushed with water after recirculation of the supplied cleaning agent.

78. (New) The water dispensing system of Claim 77, wherein the cleaning system control unit is further configured to cause the recirculation circuit to continue to be flushed with water until the cleaning agent is diluted beyond a predefined threshold.

79. (New) The water dispensing system of Claim 78, wherein the cleaning system control unit is further configured to cause the recirculation circuit to continue to be flushed with water for a predefined period of time corresponding to a target cleaning agent dilution.

80. (New) The water dispensing system of Claim 73, wherein the first control unit and the cleaning system control unit are connected via a connector.

81. (New) The water dispensing system of Claim 73, wherein the first control unit and the cleaning system control unit are integrally coupled.

82. (New) The water dispensing system of Claim 73, wherein the cleaning system is downstream of a tap water source for the water dispensing system and upstream of the water supply apparatus.

83. (New) The water dispensing system of Claim 73, wherein the water supply apparatus is configured to serve mineral water and the recirculated water is mineral water; and wherein the first control unit is configured to regularly recirculate the mineral water in the recirculation circuit while the cleaning system is not recirculating the cleaning agent through the recirculation circuit.

84. (New) The water dispensing system of Claim 73, further comprising:
a cleaning agent outlet for providing the cleaning agent to the water supply apparatus;
wherein the cleaning agent outlet is configured to provide cleaning agent to the water supply apparatus at an upstream location relative to water processing components of the water supply apparatus.

85. (New) The water dispensing system of Claim 73, wherein the cleaning system control unit is further configured to control at least a pump that affects the flow of cleaning agent from the cleaning agent vessel through the cleaning system and into the cleaning agent outlet.

86. (New) The water dispensing system of Claim 73, further comprising:
a water purification device configured to at least one of: mix purified water with the cleaning agent, discharge purified water with the cleaning agent, or fill the water supply apparatus with purified water.

87. (New) An assembly, comprising:
a water supply apparatus comprising a recirculation circuit for recirculating water within the water supply apparatus, wherein the recirculation circuit is controlled by a first control unit; and
a cleaning system comprising a cleaning agent vessel containing a cleaning agent that is supplied to the water supply apparatus, wherein the cleaning system further comprises a cleaning system control unit configured to cause recirculation of the supplied cleaning agent through the recirculation circuit of the water supply apparatus by controlling the first control unit.

88. (New) An assembly according to Claim 87, wherein the first control unit is normally configured to cause the recirculation of mineral water through the recirculation circuit and the water supply apparatus.

89. (New) An assembly according to Claim 88, wherein the cleaning system control unit is configured to operate according to a cleaning program.

90. (New) An assembly according to Claim 87, wherein the cleaning system control unit is configured to cause the first control unit to open and close valves of the water supply apparatus.

91. (New) An assembly according to Claim 87, wherein the cleaning system control unit is configured to cause the first control unit to start and stop a pump of the water supply apparatus.

92. (New) An assembly according to Claim 87, wherein the cleaning system control unit is configured to controllably coordinate the first control unit and the supply of cleaning agent to the water supply apparatus.

93. (New) An assembly according to Claim 87, wherein the first control unit and the cleaning system control unit are connected via a connector.

94. (New) An assembly according to Claim 87, wherein the first control unit and the cleaning system control unit are integrally coupled.

95. (New) An assembly according to Claim 87, wherein the cleaning system control unit is further configured to cause the recirculation circuit to be flushed with water after recirculation of the supplied cleaning agent.

96. (New) An assembly according to Claim 95, wherein the cleaning system control unit is further configured to cause the recirculation circuit to continue to be flushed with water until the cleaning agent is diluted beyond a predefined threshold.

97. (New) An assembly according to Claim 95, wherein the cleaning system control unit is further configured to cause the recirculation circuit to continue to be flushed with water for a predefined period of time corresponding to a target cleaning agent dilution.

98. (New) An assembly according to Claim 87, wherein the cleaning system is downstream of a tap water source for the water dispensing system and upstream of the water supply apparatus.

99. (New) An assembly according to Claim 87, wherein the water supply apparatus is configured to serve mineral water and the recirculated water is mineral water; and wherein the first control unit is configured to regularly recirculate the mineral water in the recirculation circuit while the cleaning system is not recirculating the cleaning agent through the recirculation circuit.

100. (New) An assembly according to Claim 87, further comprising:
a cleaning agent outlet for providing the cleaning agent to the water supply apparatus;
wherein the cleaning agent outlet is configured to provide cleaning agent to the water supply apparatus at an upstream location relative to water processing components of the water supply apparatus.

101. (New) An assembly according to Claim 87, wherein the cleaning system control unit is further configured to control at least a pump that affects the flow of cleaning agent from the cleaning agent vessel through the cleaning system and into the cleaning agent outlet.

102. (New) An assembly according to Claim 87, further comprising:
a water purification device configured to mix purified water with the cleaning agent or discharge purified water with the cleaning agent.

103. (New) An assembly according to Claim 87, further comprising:

a water purification device configured to fill the water supply apparatus with purified water;

wherein the cleaning system control unit is configured to recirculate the purified water through the recirculation circuit after the cleaning agent has been recirculated through the recirculation circuit.

104. (New) A method for cleaning a water supply apparatus having a recirculation circuit for recirculating water within the water supply apparatus, the method comprising:

supplying a cleaning agent to the water supply apparatus from a cleaning system; and

using a cleaning system control unit to cause recirculation of the supplied cleaning agent through the recirculation circuit of the water supply apparatus.

105. (New) The method of Claim 104, wherein a first control unit controls the recirculation of water within the water supply apparatus and wherein the cleaning system control unit causes recirculation of the supplied cleaning agent by controlling the first control unit.

106. (New) The method of Claim 105, wherein the first control unit normally operates to recirculate mineral water through the recirculation circuit.

107. (New) The method of Claim 106, further comprising:

controlling the supplying of the cleaning agent to the water supply apparatus using the cleaning system control unit.

108. (New) The method of Claim 104, further comprising:

connecting the first control unit and the cleaning system control unit.

109. (New) The method of Claim 104, further comprising:

connecting a water inlet of the cleaning system to the water supply apparatus so that water flows from the water supply apparatus to the water inlet of the cleaning system.

110. (New) The method of Claim 104, further comprising:
installing a filter in the cleaning apparatus for filtering water received from the cleaning apparatus and to be recirculated back to the water supply apparatus.
111. (New) The method of Claim 110, further comprising:
providing the cleaning system with a water purification device for purifying water to be provided to the water supply apparatus.
112. (New) The method of Claim 111, further comprising:
filling the water supply apparatus with water purified by the cleaning system including the filter and the water purification device.